SUPERMAN-BATMAN NATIONAL COMICS
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DEC.
NO. 88
BATMAN
BATMAN
Featuring "The SON of BATMAN"
SEE HIM SOCKING THAT CROOK? THAT'S BATMAN--THAT'S MY POP!

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NO. 88a

BATMAN

Featuring: The HUNTRESS

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NAME_____
ADDRESS_____ APT.____
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AGE_____ PHONE_____

BATMAN
With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER
THERE'S ONLY ONE BATMAN! YES, THAT'S WHAT EVERYONE SAYS -- AND THEY'RE RIGHT WHEN THEY MEAN THAT THERE'S NO OTHER DETECTIVE WHO CAN MATCH HIM! BUT THERE CAN BE OTHER BATMEN OF A DIFFERENT KIND -- AS THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTER LEARNS FOR HIMSELF WHEN HE TRIES TO SOLVE...
THE MYSTERY OF THE FOUR BATMEN!
ONE OF THE FOUR MYSTERY BATMEN LET THEM OUT -- BUT WHICH ONE?
BOB KANE
ONE NIGHT, ON A ROOF HIGH ABOVE GOTHAM CITY...
WE'VE TRACKED DUKE WALLING DOWN AT LAST, BATMAN -- AND MAYBE NOW WE CAN CRACK THAT INTERNATIONAL RING THAT HANDLES STOLEN VALUABLES!
WALLING IS SMART AND HAS EVERY APPROACH TO HIS HIDE-OUT GUARDED -- EXCEPT THE ONE WE'LL USE, ROBIN!
NEXT MOMENT, IN AN APARTMENT BELOW...
HUH--? WH-WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?
YOU FORGOT THAT BATS CAN FLY, DUKE!
AND ROBINS, TOO!

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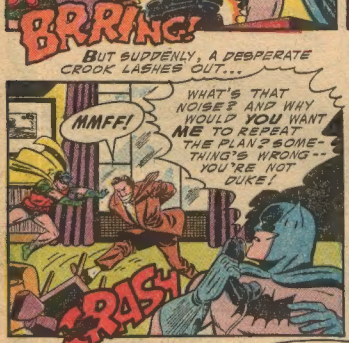
SOON...
OKAY--SO YOU'VE GOT ME! BUT YOU WON'T FIND ANY OF MY INTERNATIONAL PALS! I'M NOT TALKING!
MAYBE THAT'S ONE OF THEM ON THE PHONE NOW! MY ROPE WILL HOLD YOU WHILE I FIND OUT! BETTER GAG HIM TOO, ROBIN!
BRRING!

AND AS BATMAN IMITATES HIS CAPTIVE'S VOICE...
DUKE? THE BATMAN WE'RE EXPECTING WILL ARRIVE ON THE LINER VARONIC NEXT TUESDAY!
THAT'S GOOD! BUT...ER...YOU'D BETTER REPEAT THE WHOLE PLAN--SO I'LL KNOW YOU HAVE IT CORRECT!


BUT SUDDENLY, A DESPERATE CROOK LASHES OUT...
MMFF!
WHAT'S THAT NOISE? AND WHY WOULD YOU WANT ME TO REPEAT THE PLAN? SOMETHING'S WRONG--YOU'RE NOT DUKE!
CRASH

THAT SCARED HIM OFF--BUT HE SAID A BATMAN IS ARRIVING ON THE VARONIC TUESDAY! WHAT DID HE MEAN, DUKE?
HA, HA--THAT'S WHAT YOU'LL NEVER FIND OUT!

A BATMAN ARRIVING ON A LINER? NO WONDER THE REAL BATMAN IS MYSTIFIED!

AFTERWARD, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS, COMMISSIONER GORDON AND THE DUO FACE A BAFFLING RIDDLE...
HOW COULD A BATMAN ARRIVE ON THAT SHIP? DOES THIS CRIMINAL RING EXPECT AN IMPERSONATOR TO HELP THEM?
THE VARONIC SAILS FROM EUROPE TOMORROW, AND SOMEONE IMPORTANT TO THESE CROOKS WILL BE ABOARD IT--MAYBE BRINGING STOLEN VALUABLES! BUT WHO?
"BATMAN" COULD BE A CODE-WORD FOR SOMEBODY THEY EXPECT!
YES--AND SINCE DUKE WON'T TALK, MAYBE WE CAN GET A LEAD FROM HIS HIDEOUT!

BUT AFTER A WHOLE NIGHT'S INVESTIGATION IN THEIR SECRET BAT-CAVE...
NOTHING REVEALING IN ANY OF DUKE'S PAPERS! WE'VE GOTTEN NOWHERE--AND BY NOW, THE VARONIC HAS STARTED ITS VOYAGE!
THE RING'S CRIME-PLOT CENTERS ON THAT LINER, AND WE'VE GOT TO BE ON IT BEFORE IT ARRIVES! ROBIN, WE'LL GO MEET THE VARONIC IN MID-OCEAN!
2

THUS, SOME TIME LATER, AS THE FAMED BAT-PLANE STREAKS EASTWARD OVER THE OCEAN ON A MISSION INTO MENACING MYSTERY...

WE CAN LAND THE PLANE ON ITS HELICOPTERS, RIGHT ON THE SHIP'S DECK!

YES, ROBIN-- AND WE MUST SOLVE THIS MYSTERY BEFORE THE LINER REACHES GOTHAM CITY!

LOOK! THE BAT-PLANE! IF BATMAN AND ROBIN HAVE COME, THERE MUST BE CRIMINALS ON BOARD!

WE'LL EXPLAIN OUR PRESENCE TO THE CAPTAIN, ROBIN! I WANT TO LOOK OVER HIS PASSENGER LIST!

VARONIC

AND IN THE CAPTAIN'S CABIN...

HERE'S THE PASSENGER LIST, BATMAN!

CAPTAIN! WE'RE WORRIED! IF BATMAN HAS COME, THERE MUST BE CRIMINALS ON BOARD -- AND MY PEARLS MAY BE IN DANGER!

AND MY DIAMOND BRACELET!

AND THESE ANCIENT PERSIAN STATUETTES I DUG UP... THEY'RE NOT WORTH MUCH MONEY, BUT ARE TREMENDOUSLY VALUABLE TO ARCHAEOLOGY!

I KNOW, DR. VEERING-- BUT THERE'S NO DANGER WITH BATMAN ABOARD!

HAVE THE PURSER LOCK UP YOUR VALUABLES, AND THEN YOU WON'T WORRY!

A LITTLE LATER, STUDYING THE DETAILED PASSENGER LIST, BATMAN MAKES A DISCOVERY...

THESE THREE MEN ARE THE ONLY "BATMAN" SUSPECTS I CAN FIND ON THE LIST!

A BASEBALL PLAYER, A POTTERY MAN, AND AN ORNITHOLOGIST? HOW COULD THEY BE "BATMAN"?

ROBIN LEARNS THE ANSWER WHEN THEY INTERVIEW LEFTY LINGARD, PROFESSIONAL BASEBALL PLAYER...

A BAT-MAN... OF COURSE! EVERY BASEBALL PLAYER USES A BAT!

YEAH... BUT I DON'T KNOW ABOUT ANY CRIME-PLOT!

I'LL WANT TO QUESTION YOU AGAIN, LATER!

HORACE HUBERT, BUSINESSMAN IN THE POTTERY LINE, TURNS OUT TO BE A "BATMAN", TOO...

AREN'T THOSE POTTERY PLATES, IN THE FIRST STAGE OF MANUFACTURE, CALLED "BATS"?

THAT'S RIGHT! I'M GOING TO EXHIBIT MODELS OF MY NEW ELECTRIC KILN FOR MAKING BATS-- AND MY NEW ELECTRIC POTTER'S WHEEL! BUT I NEVER HEARD OF DUKE WALLING, OR ANY CRIME RING!

AND PROFESSOR EGBERT SMILLS, ORNITHOLOGIST--OR BIRD-SCIENTIST, IS AN OBVIOUS "BATMAN"...

YES, I'M BRINGING A FINE COLLECTION OF BATS BACK FROM SOUTHERN ASIA-- BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE ME A "BATMAN" CRIMINAL OF SOME SORT!

NO ONE HAS ACCUSED YOU, PROFESSOR... I MERELY HAVE TO QUESTION CERTAIN PEOPLE!

ASIA

LATER, WHEN THE TWO LAWMEN ARE ALONE...

SMILLS IS NOT SUNBURNED, AS A MAN FROM THE TROPICS SHOULD BE! I'M GOING TO ASK THAT ARCHAEOLOGIST ABOUT HIM!

THREE SUSPECTS-- AND EVERY ONE A "BATMAN"! IT'S TOO FANTASTIC FOR ME!

DR. VEERING, THE WORRIED ARCHAEOLOGIST, SOON FURNISHES A POSSIBLE LEAD...

I DIDN'T TALK MUCH WITH PROFESSOR SMILLS, BUT THE CAGE OF BATS HE'D PUT INTO THE HOLD DIDN'T LOOK LIKE ASIAN SPECIMENS TO ME!

THANKS, DR. VEERING!

SHORTLY AFTER...

ALL THREE OF OUR "BATMEN" BOOKED PASSAGE AT THE LAST MINUTE ON THIS LINER-- WHICH MAKES THEM ALL SUSPECT! YOU CHECK ON THOSE BATS... I WANT SOMETHING FROM THE GYM HERE!

"BATMAN"... AND NOW BATS! I'M GETTING CONFUSED!

GYM

AS NIGHT FALLS, BATMAN GETS HIS CHANCE TO TRY THE TEST HE HAS IN MIND...

I WANT YOU TO LOOK THIS BALL OVER FOR ME, LEFTY!

SURE-- OOPS! MISSED IT!

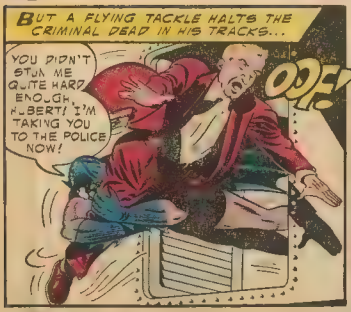
NO REAL BALLPLAYER WOULD MISS AN EASY CATCH LIKE THAT! I FIGURED YOU FOR A FAKE WHEN I SAW YOUR HANDS DON'T HAVE THE BAT-CALLOUSES A PROFESSIONAL BALLPLAYER DEVELOPS!

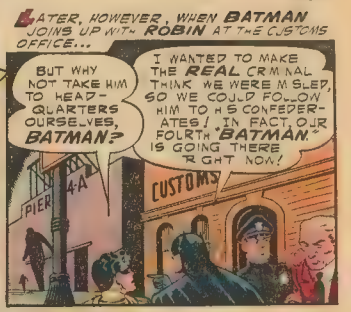
ALL RIGHT, MAYBE I'M NOT A BALLPLAYER! SO WHAT?

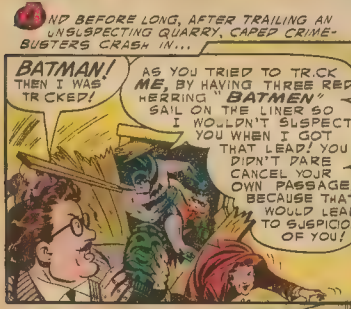
YOU'RE PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL THEFT-RING, AND YOU'LL EITHER TALK, OR GO TO PRISON!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL-- I'LL TALK! WHEN THEY HIRED ME TO SAIL ON THIS SHIP, THEY SAID I'D BE IN NO DANGER OF GETTING CAUGHT!
THERE'S A FOURTH "BATMAN" ABOARD YOU HAVEN'T SUSPECTED, AND IT'S...
WAIT! THAT WHIRRING... THE CARGO-CRANE'S SWINGING DOWN ON US! DUCK, LEFTY!
TOO LATE! AND WHOEVER STARTED THAT CRANE HAS SLIPPED AWAY!
ODF
LATER, IN THE SHIP'S INFIRMARY...
HE'S IN A COMA AND WON'T BE ABLE TO SPEAK FOR DAYS!
WAS THIS DONE BY THE MYSTERIOUS FOURTH "BATMAN" WHOM LEFTY MENTIONED? OR HUBERT OR PROFESSOR SMILLS? ROBIN WILL KNOW ABOUT SMILLS, BUT I'LL CHECK HUBERT RIGHT NOW!
DOWN IN THE HOLD, MEANWHILE, ROBIN HAS MET WITH AN EERY SURPRISE...
PROFESSOR SMILLS' BAT-COLLECTION... SOMEONE LET THEM OUT OF THE CAGE -- AND THEY ARE GETTING OUT! GOT TO STOP THEM!
THESE BIGGER BATS... IF THEY'RE WHAT THEY SEEM TO ME THEY CAN BE IMPORTANT EVIDENCE! I MUST GET AT LEAST ONE OF THEM!
AH, I THOUGHT SO! BATMAN WILL WANT TO SEE THIS!

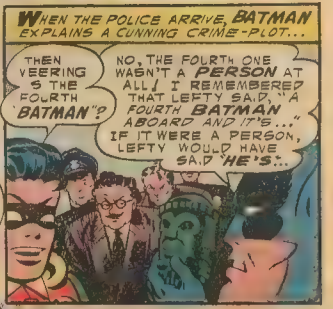
BUT BATMAN HAS ALREADY SEEN BATS A-PLENTY!
I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU, HUBERT! BUT WAIT... THAT CLOUD OF BATS ESCAPING!
UGH, BATS--I CAN'T STAND THEM! I'M GETTING OUT OF HERE!
MY BAT-COLLECTION--GONE! ALL THE PRECIOUS SPECIMENS I SPENT MONTHS GATHERING IN THE EAST!
BUT YOU DIDN'T GET THIS BAT IN THE EAST, PROFESSOR SMILLS!
BATMAN AND I HAVE STUDIED BATS.. WE KNOW THAT THIS IS A MADAGASCAR FRUIT BAT, WHICH DOESN'T COME FROM ASIA AT ALL!
ER--THAT'S BECAUSE I BOUGHT A FEW EXTRA SPECIMENS FROM ANOTHER COLLECTOR! I'LL PUT THIS ONE BACK IN ITS CAGE!
NONE OF THE BATS LOOKED LIKE FAR EASTERN VARIETIES TO ME--BUT SINCE THEY'VE ALL ESCAPED, I CAN'T PROVE IT!
IF SMILLS IS A FAKE, HE MAY HAVE LET THE BATS OUT HIMSELF, FOR THAT VERY REASON!
LATER, AN INTENSIVE CHECK BRINGS NEW RESULTS...
A DEFIANT "ORNITHOLOGIST" REFUSES TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION...
ONLY SMILLS' FINGERPRINTS ARE ON THE BAT-CAGE LOCK, SO HE DID LET THEM OUT HIMSELF!
THAT PROVES HE'S A FAKE, AND A MEMBER OF THE CRIME-RING! BUT IF HE WAS HERE OPENING THE CAGE, HE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN ON DECK TO OPERATE THAT CARGO-CRANE... SO WHO DID?
ALL RIGHT, SO THE BAT-COLLECTOR STORY WAS A PHONY! BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO GOT LEFTY!
I THINK YOU'RE LYING--AND WE HAVE ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO HOLD YOU ON SUSPICION TILL WE DOCK!
PRESENTLY...
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH HUBERT MIGHT BE OUR MAN! HE HAS NO PROVEN ALIBI FOR THE TIME OF THE ATTACK!
WE'LL KEEP CLOSE WATCH ON HIM--BUT IT'S THE MYSTERIOUS "FOURTH BATMAN" THAT HAS ME WORRIED! WE'LL CHECK THE PASSENGER LIST AGAIN TO SEE IF WE CAN SPOT HIM!

BUT DAWN FINDS THE ENIGMA OF THE FOURTH "BATMAN" STILL UNSOLVED...
NOT ONE OF THE OTHER PASSENGERS COULD BE A "BATMAN" IN ANY SENSE OF THE WORD! AND WE'LL BE DOCKING SOON!
ONE OF THEM MUST BE! LEFTY SAID, "THERE'S A FOURTH BATMAN ABOARD AND IT'S..." BUT HE NEVER NAMED THE MAN, UNLESS--WAIT A MINUTE!
THAT'S IT--THE CLUE IN LEFTY'S WORDS I OVERLOOKED TILL NOW! WE'VE GOT TO WORK FAST! ROBIN, YOU WEIGH LEFTY'S BALL-BATS, AND SEE IF ONE OF THEM WEIGHS SIX AND A HALF POUNDS!
WEIGH THEM?
BUT--WELL OKAY--IF YOU SAY SO!
AND IN THE BALLPLAYER'S CABIN...
NO, NONE OF THESE BALL-BATS IS THAT WEIGHT! BUT HOW CAN WEIGHING BATS HELP US FIND THE FOURTH "BATMAN"?
WHILE IN HORACE HUBERT'S STATE-ROOM...
MIND IF I WEIGH THESE CLAY BATS, HUBERT?
SURE--BUT I DON'T SEE WHY!
HMM... THOSE SPECKS OF GREEN CLAY AREN'T FROM THESE POTTERY BATS! NOW I GET IT!
OH, OH... HE'S SPOTTED THOSE TRACES! THE GAME'S UP, UNLESS I STOP HIM!
AND AS BATMAN TURNS, A POTTERY EXPERT EMPLOYS A WEIRD WEAPON...
I WANT TO KNOW... OW! MY EYES!
THIS POWERED POTTER'S WHEEL, SPEEDED UP TO THE LIMIT, THROWS CLAY FAST!
GOT HIM--AND WE'RE DOCKING NOW! I MUST GET OFF THIS SHIP WHILE HE'S STILL STUNNED!
7

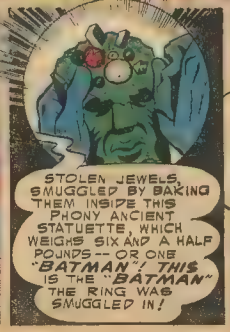

BUT A FLYING TACKLE HALTS THE CRIMINAL DEAD IN HIS TRACKS...
YOU DIDN'T STUN ME QUITE HARD ENOUGH, HUBERT! I'M TAKING YOU TO THE POLICE NOW!
OOF!


LATER, HOWEVER, WHEN BATMAN JOINS UP WITH ROBIN AT THE CUSTOMS OFFICE...
BUT WHY NOT TAKE HIM TO HEAD-QUARTERS OURSELVES, BATMAN?
I WANTED TO MAKE THE REAL CRIMINAL THINK WE WERE MISLED, SO WE COULD FOLLOW HIM TO HIS CONFEDERATES! IN FACT, OUR FOURTH "BATMAN" IS GOING THERE RIGHT NOW!
CUSTOMS
PIER 4-A


AND BEFORE LONG, AFTER TRAILING AN UNSUSPECTING QUARRY, CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS CRASH IN...
BATMAN! THEN I WAS TRICKED!
AS YOU TRIED TO TRICK ME, BY HAVING THREE RED-HERRING "BATMEN" SAIL ON THE LINER SO I WOULDN'T SUSPECT YOU WHEN I GOT THAT LEAD! YOU DIDN'T DARE CANCEL YOUR OWN PASSAGE BECAUSE THAT WOULD LEAD TO SUSPICION OF YOU!


WHEN THE POLICE ARRIVE, BATMAN EXPLAINS A CUNNING CRIME-PLOT...
THEN WEERING IS THE FOURTH "BATMAN"?
NO, THE FOURTH ONE WASN'T A PERSON AT ALL! I REMEMBERED THAT LEFTY SAID, "A FOURTH BATMAN ABOARD AND IT'S..." IF IT WERE A PERSON, LEFTY WOULD HAVE SAID "HE'S"...

I RECALLED THEN THAT A "BATMAN" IS A UNIT OF WEIGHT IN IRAN AND THE EAST, EQUAL TO SIX AND A HALF POUNDS! AND WHEN I SAW TRACES OF GREEN CLAY LIKE THIS IN HUBERT'S KILN, I KNEW WHAT THE FOURTH BATMAN WAS!
8


STOLEN JEWELS, SMUGGLED BY BAKING THEM INSIDE THIS PHONY ANCIENT STATUETTE, WHICH WEIGHS SIX AND A HALF POUNDS -- OR ONE "BATMAN"! THIS IS THE "BATMAN" THE RING WAS SMUGGLED IN!

AND SO, LATER, UPON PRESUMING THEIR EVERY-DAY IDENTITIES OF BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...
I HOPE CRIME STAYS QUIET SO YOU CAN BE JUST BRUCE FOR AWHILE! RIGHT NOW, I FEEL I'VE SEEN TOO MANY BATMEN LATELY!
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN!
THE END

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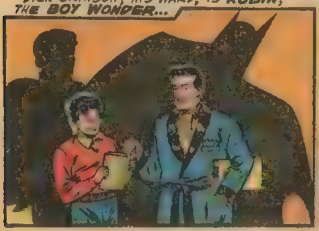
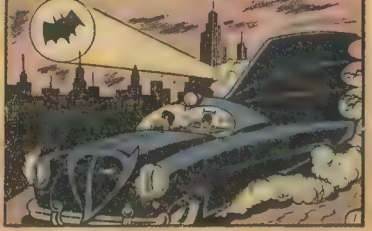
MOVIE MIRTH
WE'RE TOO FAR BACK! --I CAN'T SEE A THING!
WHAT'S THE MATTER, DEAR? WHY ARE YOU SO UNHAPPY?
IS THIS BETTER?
NO! I STILL CAN'T SEE BEHIND THAT! --LET'S TRY THOSE SEATS FURTHER DOWN!
WE'RE RIGHT IN FRONT NOW, DEAR --- AND YOU'RE STILL UNHAPPY?
WORSE THAN EVER!
BUT YOU CAN SEE EVERYTHING, CAN'T YOU?
THAT'S JUST IT! NOW THAT I CAN SEE THE SCREEN, I REALIZE--
-- I'VE ALREADY SEEN THIS PICTURE BEFORE!
THE END.

BAT MAN
ROBIN
BOB KANE
ONCE AGAIN, THE WEIRD BAT-SIGNAL FLASHES THROUGH NIGHT SKIES SUMMONING BATMAN AND ROBIN. THIS TIME TO A DOUBLE-BARRELED MYSTERY, FOR NOW THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS MUST SOLVE THE RIDDLE OF WHAT HAPPENS TO STOLEN LOOT THAT VANISHES INTO THIN AIR -- AND ABOVE ALL, FIND THE MAN WHO WRITES THE ENIGMATIC...
THREE LETTERS to BATMAN!
ANOTHER LETTER, BATMAN?
YES -- AND THIS TIME THE WRITER SAYS HE KNOWS THAT I AM BRUCE WAYNE!

ONE OF THE BEST-KEPT SECRETS OF ALL TIME IS THAT BRUCE WAYNE, WEALTHY SOCIALITE, IS ACTUALLY **BATMAN**, RELENTLESS CRIME-FIGHTER, AND THAT YOUNG DICK GRAYSON, HIS WARD, IS **ROBIN**, THE **BOY WONDER**...

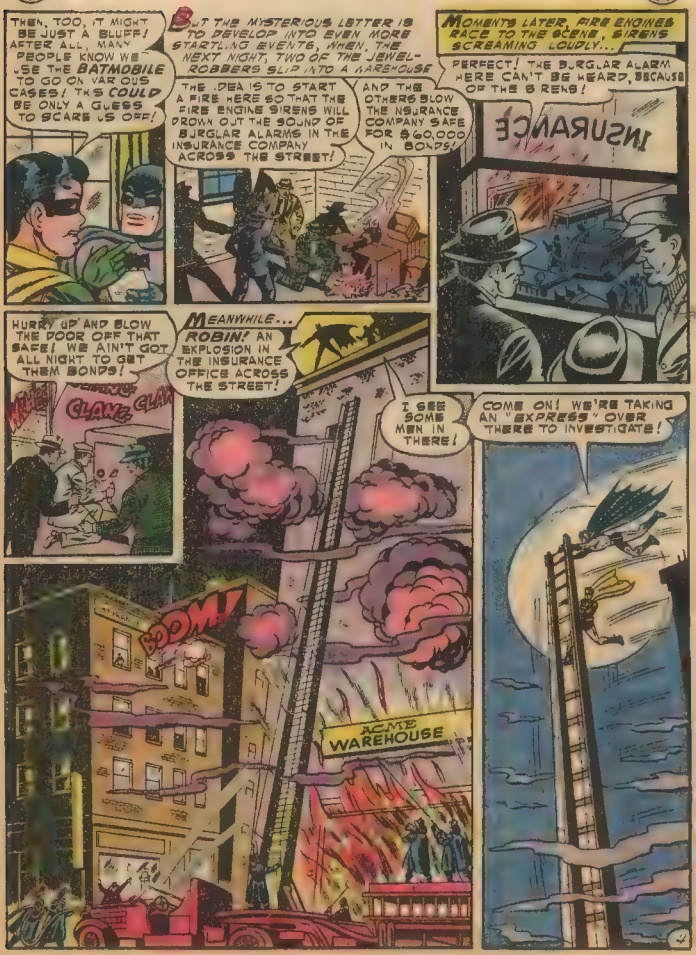


ON COUNTLESS OCCASIONS, THE DARING DUO HAS BEEN SUMMONED BY THE **BAT-SIGNAL** IN THE NIGHT SKIES OVER GOTHAM CITY, SENDING THEM ON ERRANDS OF JUSTICE...



ON THIS NIGHT, THE CAPED CRIME-FIGHTERS ARE DESTINED TO BE SENT ON SUCH AN ERRAND AS, AT THE GOTHAM THEATER, FAMOUS FIGURES FLOCK TO THE WORLD PREMIERE OF A MOVIE...
WORLD PREMIERE
PREMIERE
GOTHAM
WHAT DO YOU KNOW -- WE HAVE VISITING ROYALTY TONIGHT!
THE QUEEN OF MUNDOVIA! SHE'S WEARING THE ROYAL DIAMOND TIARA AND THE FAMOUS PEARL NECKLACE!
AND YOU'LL NOTICE SHE HAS A POLICE GUARD, TOO!
SUDDENLY, FURTIVE FIGURES MAKE THEIR WAY TO ONE OF THE SEARCHLIGHTS...
SPEED IT UP BEFORE THE QUEEN GETS INSIDE! WE'VE GOT TO DO OUR PART OF THE JOB BEFORE THE OTHERS CAN GRAB THE TIARA AND NECKLACE!
WITHOUT WARNING, THE GLARING LIGHT IS TURNED INTO THE EYES OF THE POLICE GUARDS -- TEMPORARILY BLINDING THEM...
THAT - GHT! I CAN'T SEE! TURN IT OFF!
MOVING SWIFTLY, OTHER CROOKS CLOSE IN FOR THEIR PRIZE...
OKAY -- I GOT THE STUFF! LET'S SCRAM!
ABRUPTLY, FROM ABOVE, SWING TWO CAPED FIGURES -- BATMAN AND ROBIN!
LOOKS LIKE WE ARRIVED A SPLIT SECOND TOO LATE TO ADD EXTRA PROTECTION FOR HER MAJESTY'S JEWELRY, ROBIN! THE CROOKS ALREADY HAVE IT!
BATMAN AND ROBIN!
2

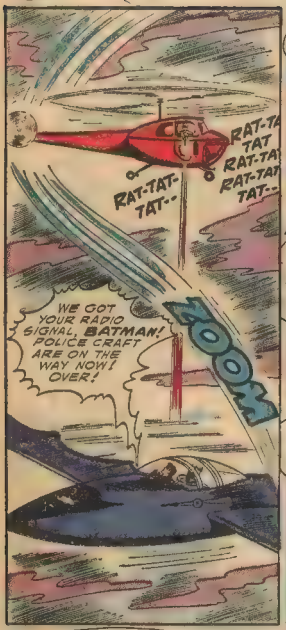
PREMIE
LOOK OUT, BATMAN! BEHIND YOU! NEVER MIND, I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM!
I--I CAN'T SEE!
THEN, WHEN THE THIEVES ARE SUBDUED,
WE SEARCHED THEM THOROUGHLY! THE JEWELS ARE NOWHERE ON THEM!
WHAT JEWELS, BATMAN?
WE'VE SEARCHED THE AREA, BATMAN! NOT A TRACE OF THE TIARA OR NECKLACE!
THEY DIDN'T HAVE A CHANCE TO HIDE THEM! DON'T TELL ME THOSE PIECES SIMPLY VANISHED?
MAYBE THEY'LL FEEL MORE LIKE TALKING FROM BEHIND BARS!
ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, AT COMMISSIONER GORDON'S OFFICE...
THOSE CROOKS STILL WON'T TALK, BATMAN! AND WE HAVEN'T THE FAINTEST NOTION AS TO WHAT HAPPENED TO THE JEWELRY! BY THE WAY, HERE'S A LETTER THAT CAME FOR YOU!
FOR ME? THANKS!
LATER, WHEN THE CRIME FIGHTERS ARE ALONE...
I WONDER WHO OUR "WATCHFUL FRIEND" IS, ROBIN? HE MUST'VE SEEN US PARK THE BATMOBILE IN THE SHADOWS NEAR THE THEATER, EVEN BEFORE WE ATTACKED THE CROOKS!
IT'S NOT A COMFORTABLE FEELING KNOWING WE'RE BEING WATCHED! THIS MR. MYSTERY MIGHT LEARN TOO MUCH ABOUT US, MAYBE LEARN ABOUT OUR DOUBLE IDENTITY!
Even though you were late in advising me, Batmobile, you still managed to catch the crooks, BATMAN! Fine job! However, I am disappointed as to what happened to the missing jewels! Mustering evidence that will be admissible in court is my job! I'll be looking for it from your watchful friend, Mr. Mystery
3

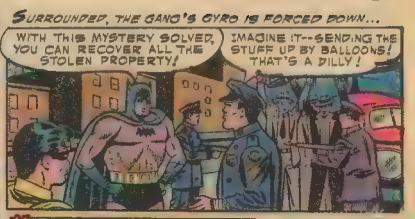

THEN, TOO, IT MIGHT BE JUST A BLUFF! AFTER ALL, MANY PEOPLE KNOW WE USE THE BATMOBILE TO GO ON VARIOUS CASES! THIS COULD BE ONLY A GUESS TO SCARE US OFF!
BUT THE MYSTERIOUS LETTER IS TO DEVELOP INTO EVEN MORE STARTLING EVENTS, WHEN, THE NEXT NIGHT, TWO OF THE JEWEL-ROBBERS SLIP INTO A WAREHOUSE
THE IDEA IS TO START A FIRE HERE SO THAT THE FIRE ENGINE SIRENS WILL DROWN OUT THE SOUND OF BURGLAR ALARMS IN THE INSURANCE COMPANY ACROSS THE STREET!
AND THE OTHERS BLOW THE INSURANCE COMPANY SAFE FOR $60,000 IN BONDS!
MOMENTS LATER, FIRE ENGINES RACE TO THE SCENE, SIRENS SCREAMING LOUDLY...
PERFECT! THE BURGLAR ALARM HERE CAN'T BE HEARD, BECAUSE OF THE SIRENS!
INSURANCE
HURRY UP AND BLOW THE DOOR OFF THAT SAFE! WE AIN'T GOT ALL NIGHT TO GET THEM BONDS!
CLANG CLANG
MEANWHILE... ROBIN! AN EXPLOSION IN THE INSURANCE OFFICE ACROSS THE STREET!
I SEE SOME MEN IN THERE!
COME ON! WE'RE TAKING AN "EXPRESS" OVER THERE TO INVESTIGATE!
KOOM!
ACME WAREHOUSE

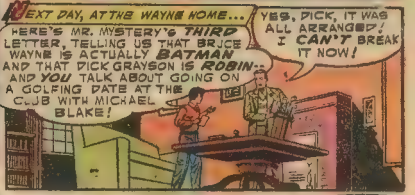
THE TOWERING LADDER SWINGS ACROSS THE STREET, CARRYING THE DARING DUO ON A SPECTACULAR RIDE...
HEY! BATMAN AND ROBIN!
OUR STATION STOP, ROBIN! THE END OF THE LINE!
THEN...
DON'T LET 'EM GET THE BONDS! BLAST 'EM!
A GUN BUTT IS AIMED AT THE CRIME-FIGHTER'S HEAD, BUT BATMAN TAKES THE BLOW ON HIS ARM, AND...
GO TO SLEEP, BATMAN... ULLPS!
YOU'RE THE ONE HEADED FOR DREAMLAND!
HAVING SEEN BATMAN AND ROBIN SWING INTO THE WINDOW, POLICE ARRIVE TO TAKE THE CROOKS IN TOW, AND...
NO SIGN OF THE BONDS! LIKE THE JEWELS--THEY D'SAPPEARED! YET--NOT ONE OF THESE MEN LEFT THE ROOM! WHAT COULD'VE HAPPENED TO THEM?
THIS HAS GOT ME GOING OUT OF MY MIND, BATMAN! WELL, WE'LL LOCK THESE CHARACTERS UP WITH THE OTHERS! WE'RE GOING TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS MYSTERY!
THEN, WHEN THE OTHERS HAVE LEFT...
WELL, OUTSIDE OF NOT KNOWING WHAT HAPPENED TO THE BONDS--AS WELL AS THE JEWELS--I GUESS WE'RE THROUGH HERE FOR THE NIGHT! MMM--MY ARM'S A LITTLE SORE WHERE I STOPPED THAT GUN!

BUT, ON THE FOLLOWING DAY--A SECOND LETTER IS RECEIVED...
what an exciting night! On the way to the street car I saw the ladder and stepped there quickly! But--I'm STILL wondering what happened to the bonds! By the way--sorry about your SORE arm! Bye BATMAN! You all--I know ALL! My next letter will reveal your identity! Your friend, Mr. Mystery!
MAYBE WE ARE BEING WATCHED, ROBIN! HOW DID MR. MYSTERY KNOW ABOUT MY SORE ARM?
NO OTHER PERSON WAS IN THAT ROOM BUT US, BATMAN, WHEN YOU MENTIONED YOUR SORE ARM!
WAIT! MAYBE I'VE GOT IT! WHAT IF SOMEBODY IS WATCHING US WITH TELEVISION OR RADAR? IT'S NOT IMPOSSIBLE, YOU KNOW!
MAYBE YOU HAVE SOMETHING THERE! BUT WHAT CAN WE DO TO FIND OUT?
SHORTLY AFTERWARDS...
DON'T BE SO HELPLESS, BATMAN! LET'S GO OVER TO THE BAT-CAVE! WE HAVE A WAY OF BAFFLING MR. MYSTERY! WHOEVER HE IS!
SPEAKING OF BAFFLING SOMEONE--I'M STILL BAFFLED BY THAT DISAPPEARING LOOT! WE'VE GOT TO FIND THE ANSWER!
THEN, AT THE FAMED BATCAVE...
WE'LL DAB THIS LEAD SOLUTION ON OUR CLOTHES! THE LEAD WILL PREVENT RADAR FROM TRACKING US! I DON'T BELIEVE TELEVISION SPYING IS THE ANSWER BECAUSE STRONG LIGHTS WOULD BE NEEDED TO PICK UP OUR PICTURE!
ABOUT THAT MISSING LOOT... I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT ANY WAY IN WHICH IT COULD'VE SIMPLY VANISHED!
DON'T KEEP WORRYING ABOUT THAT, BATMAN! WE'LL SOLVE IT SOONER OR LATER! RIGHT NOW, I'M DESPERATELY TRYING TO FIND OUT WHO IS WATCHING US--AND HOW! AND YOU KEEP WORRYING ABOUT SOMETHING ELSE!
THAT NIGHT, AS THE BATPLANE CIRCLES OVER GOTHAM CITY...
WE SEARCHED THE CITY FROM THE AIR FOR ANY SIGN OF THE GANG'S ACTIVITIES TO NO AVAIL! WE'LL PUT DOWN ON THAT ROOF-TOP! THERE'S A FOG SETTLING NOW!
6

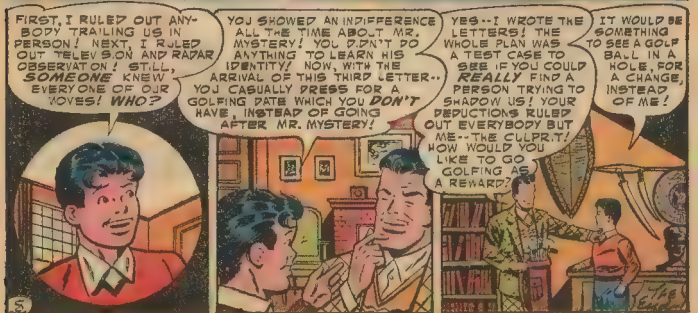
THEN...
WE KNOW THE CROOKS GOT THE ROYAL JEWELS-- AND THE JEWELS VANISHED! WE KNOW THEY GOT THE BONDS--AND THEY VANISHED TOO! I'VE TRIED TO THINK OF EVERY POSSIBLE WAY THEY DID IT-- BUT WIND UP WITH A BLANK!
I WISH WE'D TRY TO THINK WHO THIS MR. MYSTERY IS!
THEN, FROM SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY...
THE SAME GANG, ROBIN-- THEY ROBBED THE BANK! I SAW THREE SATCHELS, MOST LIKELY WITH THE LOOT! WE MUST NOT LET THEM VANISH!
COME ON-- WE'LL GIVE THE POLICE A HAND!
BUT THEN, BATMAN STOPS ABRUPTLY AS HE SEES SOMETHING ELSE--
BALLOONS-- THREE OF THEM! WAIT, ROBIN! NEVER MIND THE CROOKS ON THE STREET! LET THE POLICE HANDLE THEM! WE'VE GOT OTHER WORK TO DO! GET TO THE BATPLANE!
THE BATPLANE ROARS SKYWARD, WHILE IN AN AUTOGYRO HOVERING SOME DISTANCE AWAY...
IT WORKED AGAIN! THE FELLERS BELOW WILL GIVE THE COPS A WILD GOOSE CHASE WHILE WE MAKE A CLEAN GETAWAY WITH THE STUFF!
THAT'S HOW THE LOOT DISAPPEARED! IT WAS ATTACHED TO GAS-FILLED BALLOONS AND FLOATED UP TO WHERE SOME OF THE GANG WAITED IN THIS AUTOGYRO!
THE BATPLANE! OPEN UP WITH THE CHOPPERS!


RAT-TAT-TAT--
RAT-TAT-TAT
RAT-TAT-TAT
RAT-TAT-TAT--
WE GOT YOUR RADIO SIGNAL, BATMAN! POLICE CRAFT ARE ON THE WAY NOW! OVER!
ZOOM

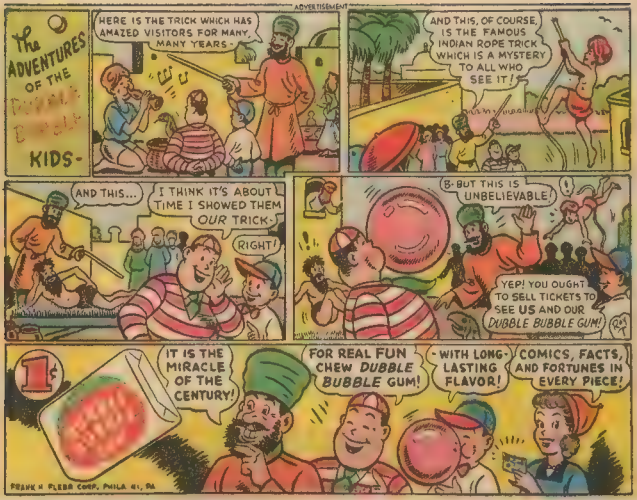

SURROUNDED, THE GANG'S GYRO IS FORCED DOWN...
WITH THIS MYSTERY SOLVED, YOU CAN RECOVER ALL THE STOLEN PROPERTY!
IMAGINE IT--SENDING THE STUFF UP BY BALLOONS! THAT'S A DILLY!


NEXT DAY, AT THE WAYNE HOME...
HERE'S MR. MYSTERY'S THIRD LETTER, TELLING US THAT BRUCE WAYNE IS ACTUALLY BATMAN AND THAT DICK GRAYSON IS ROBIN--AND YOU TALK ABOUT GOING ON A GOLFING DATE AT THE CLUB WITH MICHAEL BLAKE!
YES, DICK, IT WAS ALL ARRANGED! I CAN'T BREAK IT NOW!

IT SO HAPPENS I CALLED BLAKE WHILE YOU WERE GETTING DRESSED! HE SAID HE DOESN'T HAVE A GOLFING DATE WITH YOU! THAT'S THE CLINCHER, BRUCE! YOU HAVE BEEN MR. MYSTERY ALL ALONG!
AND JUST HOW DID YOU ARRIVE AT THAT?


FIRST, I RULED OUT ANYBODY TRAILING US IN PERSON! NEXT, I RULED OUT TELEVISION AND RADAR OBSERVATION! STILL, SOMEONE KNEW EVERY ONE OF OUR MOVES! WHO?
YOU SHOWED AN INDIFFERENCE ALL THE TIME ABOUT MR. MYSTERY! YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING TO LEARN HIS IDENTITY! NOW, WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THIS THIRD LETTER.. YOU CASUALLY DRESS FOR A GOLFING DATE WHICH YOU DON'T HAVE, INSTEAD OF GOING AFTER MR. MYSTERY!
YES--I WROTE THE LETTERS! THE WHOLE PLAN WAS A TEST CASE TO SEE IF YOU COULD REALLY FIND A PERSON TRYING TO SHADOW US! YOUR DEDUCTIONS RULED OUT EVERYBODY BUT ME--THE CULPRIT! HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO GO GOLFING AS A REWARD?
IT WOULD BE SOMETHING TO SEE A GOLF BALL IN A HOLE, FOR A CHANGE, INSTEAD OF ME!

ADVERTISEMENT


The ADVENTURES OF THE DUBBLE BUBBLE KIDS-
HERE IS THE TRICK WHICH HAS AMAZED VISITORS FOR MANY, MANY YEARS-
AND THIS, OF COURSE, IS THE FAMOUS INDIAN ROPE TRICK WHICH IS A MYSTERY TO ALL WHO SEE IT!
AND THIS...
I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME I SHOWED THEM OUR TRICK-
RIGHT!
B-BUT THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE!
YEP! YOU OUGHT TO SELL TICKETS TO SEE US AND OUR DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM!
1¢
IT IS THE MIRACLE OF THE CENTURY!
FOR REAL FUN CHEW DUBBLE BUBBLE GUM!
-WITH LONG-LASTING FLAVOR!
COMICS, FACTS, AND FORTUNES IN EVERY PIECE!
FRANK H. FLEER CORP., PHILA. 41, PA.

CASEY THE COP
I VOLUNTEER FOR THE POLICE BAND - AND LOOK WHAT I GET - A TUBA!
HARVEY BOSTHOFF
I'VE GOT TO PARADE WITH THIS HEAVY THING!
IT'S GETTING HEAVIER!
RAIN?
BOY! AM I GLAD I GOT THIS TUBA!
END

Little
PETE
MOM ASKED ME TO MAIL THIS.
POST
STAMPS
?
HMM..
LOCAL
LOCAL
OH BOY!
PETE, DID YOU MAIL THE LETTER ?
SURE, AND I SAVED YOU THREE CENTS! I SAW A LOT OF PEOPLE PUTTING LETTERS IN THE SLOT, SO WHEN NO ONE WAS LOOKING I DROPPED MINE IN, TOO!
END

The Case of the Harmless Crackpots

LAST year, a police sergeant picked up his jangling phone and heard the anguished voice of a woman coming over the wire.

"You must send a policeman to my house at once. That man I called you about last week just looked into my kitchen window again!"

The sergeant sighed, and switched the call to the detective bureau. There, two detectives lifted their hats off the rack, and ordered a squad car.

Minutes later, both detectives politely sat in the modest living room of the frightened woman, and courteously listened to her story.

"I know I've been making a pest of myself, calling you week after week about that peeper, and I can hardly blame you for thinking I'm crazy, because you never seem to catch him, but . . ."

At this point, one of the detectives interrupted her.

"We never said you were crazy, Madam," he said.

"As for being a pest, don't worry about it. Our job is to investigate every call. What did the man look like?" remarked the other detective.

The woman took a deep breath.

"Well," she began, "I can't tell you any more than I did last week, or the week before. You already have the description I gave you those other times."

"Yes, ma'am, but we'd like to hear it again, if you don't mind."

The woman shuddered, as if in terror at the recollection of the face at the window.

"He—he had a long scar on his right cheek."

"The *right* cheek?" interrupted one of the detectives.

"Yes, I'm sure it was the right cheek."

The woman completed the description. The detectives stood up.

"Okay, we'll make another search, ma'am."

The two detectives smiled pleasantly, and took their leave. But even before they had time to leave the long porch in front of the house, they were joined by the husband of the shuddering woman.

"I beg your pardon. I—I'd just like to say that I realize what you're up against. Frankly, I never saw that face my wife keeps complaining about."

The husband hesitated, as the de-

tectives silently waited for him to continue.

"I—I guess she is what you fellows at headquarters call a—a crackpot, huh?"

One of the detectives smiled politely.

"She might be one. But we've never called her that. We never make snap judgments at headquarters, and we always play it safe. Good evening."

Two days later, at exactly 11 o'clock at night, the woman uttered a piercing scream and pointed to the hall window. Her husband whirled about, but saw nothing.

"For goodness' sake," he said, with impatience, "when are you going to stop seeing faces in the . . . !"

But he never completed the sentence. A scuffle just outside the window brought him into the alley on the double. His arrival was timed at the moment that the two detectives who had visited him days before snapped bracelets on the wrists of a sinister character. The husband caught a glimpse of a bright red scar on the man's right cheek!

Later, the embarrassed husband shuffled uncomfortably in front of the two detectives.

"I—I guess I owe my wife an apology. She really did see the face in the window—and I thought she was a crackpot."

One of the detectives clapped him on the back.

"No apologies are necessary. Half the people who call us up after seeing faces in the window are crackpots. The trouble is, we never know which is which when a call comes in. So we treat every case as legitimate until we know better. In this particular case, we're certainly glad we did. That face in your window belonged to a homicidal maniac. Your house was under constant watch ever since your wife's second call to us."

This case points up the attitude held by most police forces in the nation today regarding the innumerable reports that come in every day about "harmless nuisances." For, the police have learned, the harmless nuisance of today may turn out to be the dangerous criminal of tomorrow.

"Crackpots" who call up day after day to report "a man is following me" could easily become a case for homicide unless vigilance is maintained by a harried but alert police force.

And the "nuisance" who keeps hanging around a certain neighborhood, causing nothing more than annoyance to the residents in that neighborhood, may mask the hidden identity of a potential killer or thief.

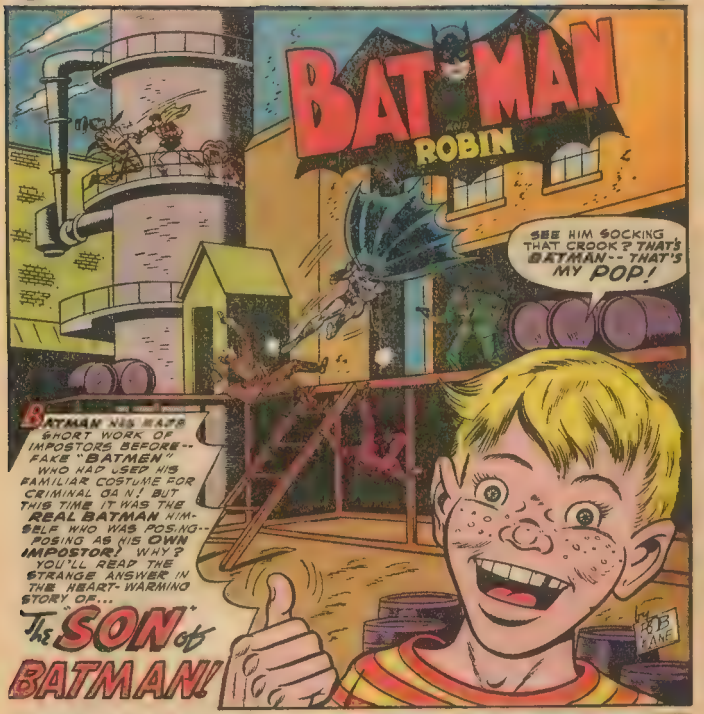
Not long ago, a man made a *perfect nuisance* of himself on a busy city street in an eastern city, by accusing absolute strangers of laughing at him. A number of people reported him to the police, but the authorities were unable to act for, actually, the man hadn't committed any breach of the law.

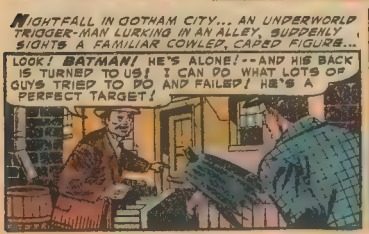
Just the same, a detective was assigned to keep an eye on the "pest." And it was a good thing that he was.

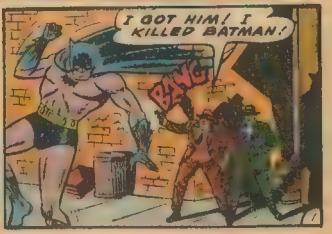
For, one day, the "pest" appeared on the street, armed with a loaded rifle, and screaming at the top of his lungs that he was going to kill all the people who had been laughing at him.

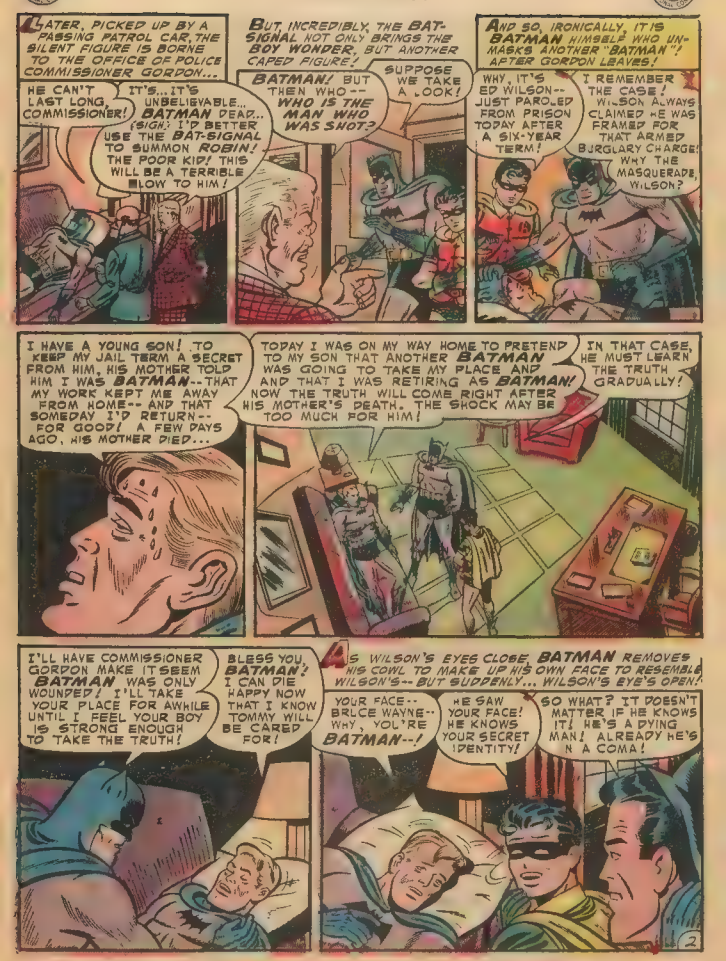
Thanks to vigilant police work, the "pest" was subdued before he could carry out his insane threat. But this true-life incident demonstrates the police approach to the menace of the "harmless crackpots."

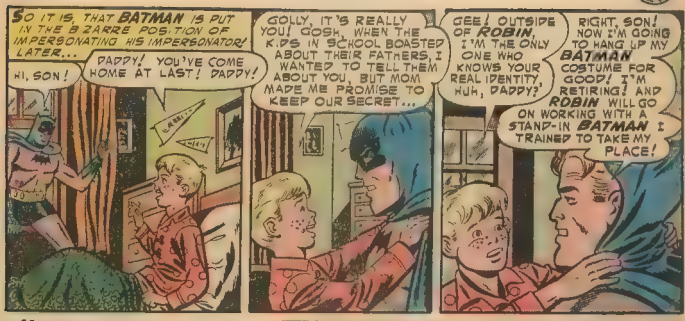
—*Joe Maloney*


BAT MAN
AND ROBIN
SEE HIM SOCKING THAT CROOK? THAT'S BATMAN-- THAT'S MY POP!
BATMAN HAS MADE SHORT WORK OF IMPOSTORS BEFORE-- FAKE "BATMEN" WHO HAD USED HIS FAMILIAR COSTUME FOR CRIMINAL GAIN! BUT THIS TIME IT WAS THE REAL BATMAN HIMSELF WHO WAS POSING-- POSING AS HIS OWN IMPOSTOR! WHY? YOU'LL READ THE STRANGE ANSWER IN THE HEART-WARMING STORY OF...
THE SON OF BATMAN!

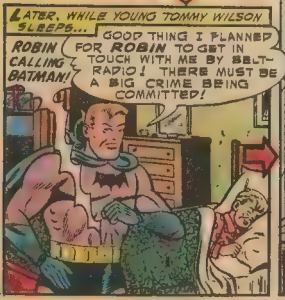

NIGHTFALL IN GOTHAM CITY... AN UNDERWORLD TRIGGER-MAN LURKING IN AN ALLEY, SUDDENLY SIGHTS A FAMILIAR COWLED, CAPED FIGURE...
LOOK! BATMAN! HE'S ALONE!--AND HIS BACK IS TURNED TO US! I CAN DO WHAT LOTS OF GUYS TRIED TO DO AND FAILED! HE'S A PERFECT TARGET!

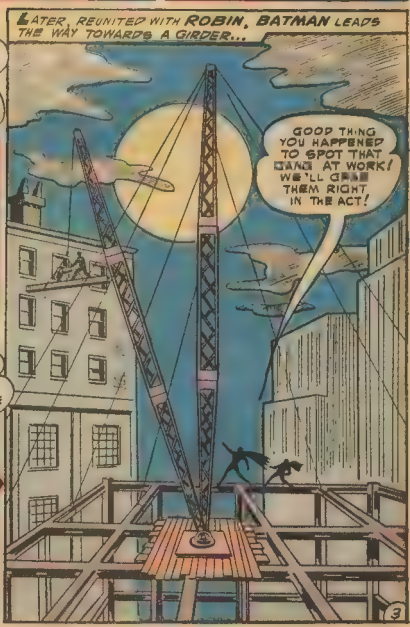

I GOT HIM! I KILLED BATMAN!
BANG!

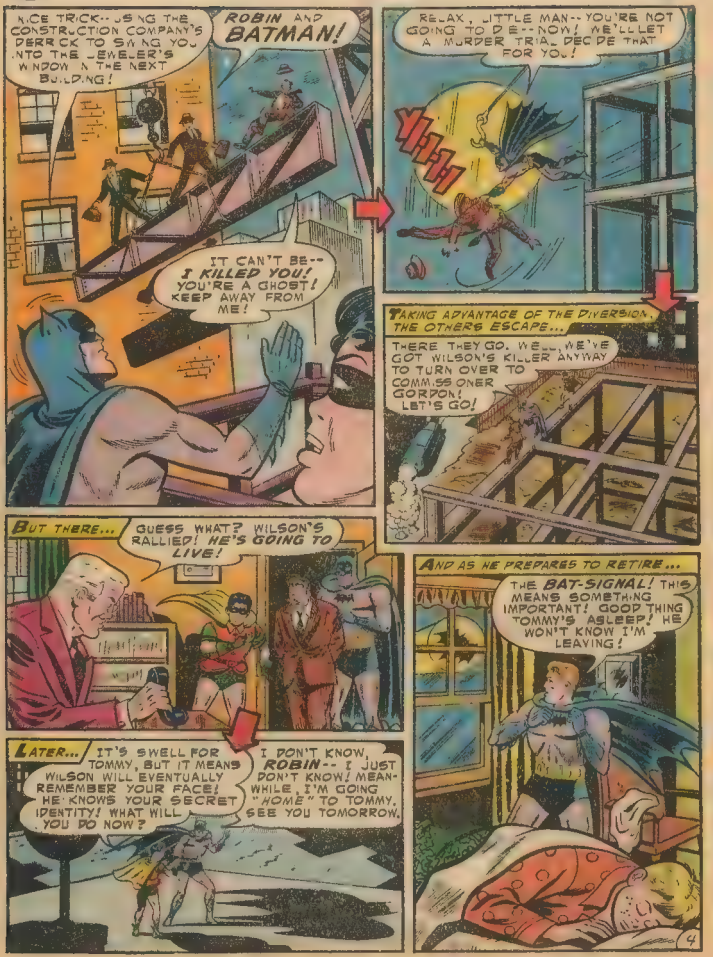

LATER, PICKED UP BY A PASSING PATROL CAR, THE SILENT FIGURE IS BORNE TO THE OFFICE OF POLICE COMMISSIONER GORDON...
HE CAN'T LAST LONG, COMMISSIONER!
IT'S...IT'S UNBELIEVABLE.. BATMAN DEAD... (SIGH) I'D BETTER USE THE BAT-SIGNAL TO SUMMON ROBIN! THE POOR KID! THIS WILL BE A TERRIBLE BLOW TO HIM!
BUT, INCREDIBLY, THE BAT-SIGNAL NOT ONLY BRINGS THE BOY WONDER, BUT ANOTHER CAPED FIGURE!
BATMAN! BUT THEN WHO-- WHO IS THE MAN WHO WAS SHOT?
SUPPOSE WE TAKE A LOOK!
AND SO, IRONICALLY, IT IS BATMAN HIMSELF WHO UNMASKS ANOTHER "BATMAN"! AFTER GORDON LEAVES!
WHY, IT'S ED WILSON-- JUST PAROLED FROM PRISON TODAY AFTER A SIX-YEAR TERM!
I REMEMBER THE CASE! WILSON ALWAYS CLAIMED HE WAS FRAMED FOR THAT ARMED BURGLARY CHARGE! WHY THE MASQUERADE, WILSON?
I HAVE A YOUNG SON! TO KEEP MY JAIL TERM A SECRET FROM HIM, HIS MOTHER TOLD HIM I WAS BATMAN--THAT MY WORK KEPT ME AWAY FROM HOME-- AND THAT SOMEDAY I'D RETURN-- FOR GOOD! A FEW DAYS AGO, HIS MOTHER DIED...
TODAY I WAS ON MY WAY HOME TO PRETEND TO MY SON THAT ANOTHER BATMAN WAS GOING TO TAKE MY PLACE AND AND THAT I WAS RETIRING AS BATMAN! NOW THE TRUTH WILL COME RIGHT AFTER HIS MOTHER'S DEATH. THE SHOCK MAY BE TOO MUCH FOR HIM!
IN THAT CASE, HE MUST LEARN THE TRUTH GRADUALLY!
I'LL HAVE COMMISSIONER GORDON MAKE IT SEEM BATMAN WAS ONLY WOUNDED! I'LL TAKE YOUR PLACE FOR AWHILE UNTIL I FEEL YOUR BOY IS STRONG ENOUGH TO TAKE THE TRUTH!
BLESS YOU, BATMAN! I CAN DIE HAPPY NOW THAT I KNOW TOMMY WILL BE CARED FOR!
AS WILSON'S EYES CLOSE, BATMAN REMOVES HIS COWL TO MAKE UP HIS OWN FACE TO RESEMBLE WILSON'S-- BUT SUDDENLY... WILSON'S EYE'S OPEN!
YOUR FACE-- BRUCE WAYNE-- WHY, YOU'RE BATMAN--!
HE SAW YOUR FACE! HE KNOWS YOUR SECRET IDENTITY!
SO WHAT? IT DOESN'T MATTER IF HE KNOWS IT! HE'S A DYING MAN! ALREADY HE'S IN A COMA!
2

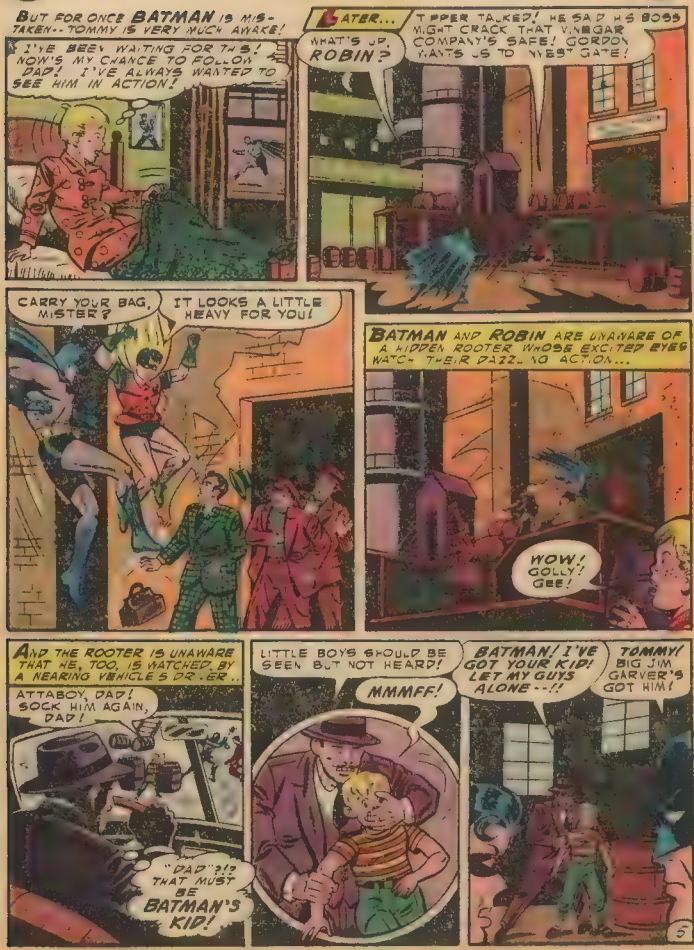

SO IT IS, THAT BATMAN IS PUT IN THE BIZARRE POSITION OF IMPERSONATING HIS IMPERSONATOR!
LATER...
HI, SON!
DADDY! YOU'VE COME HOME AT LAST! DADDY!
BANG!
GOLLY, IT'S REALLY YOU! GOSH, WHEN THE KIDS IN SCHOOL BOASTED ABOUT THEIR FATHERS, I WANTED TO TELL THEM ABOUT YOU, BUT MOM MADE ME PROMISE TO KEEP OUR SECRET...
GEE! OUTSIDE OF ROBIN, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS YOUR REAL IDENTITY, HUH, DADDY?
RIGHT, SON! NOW I'M GOING TO HANG UP MY BATMAN COSTUME FOR GOOD! I'M RETIRING! AND ROBIN WILL GO ON WORKING WITH A STAND-IN BATMAN I TRAINED TO TAKE MY PLACE!

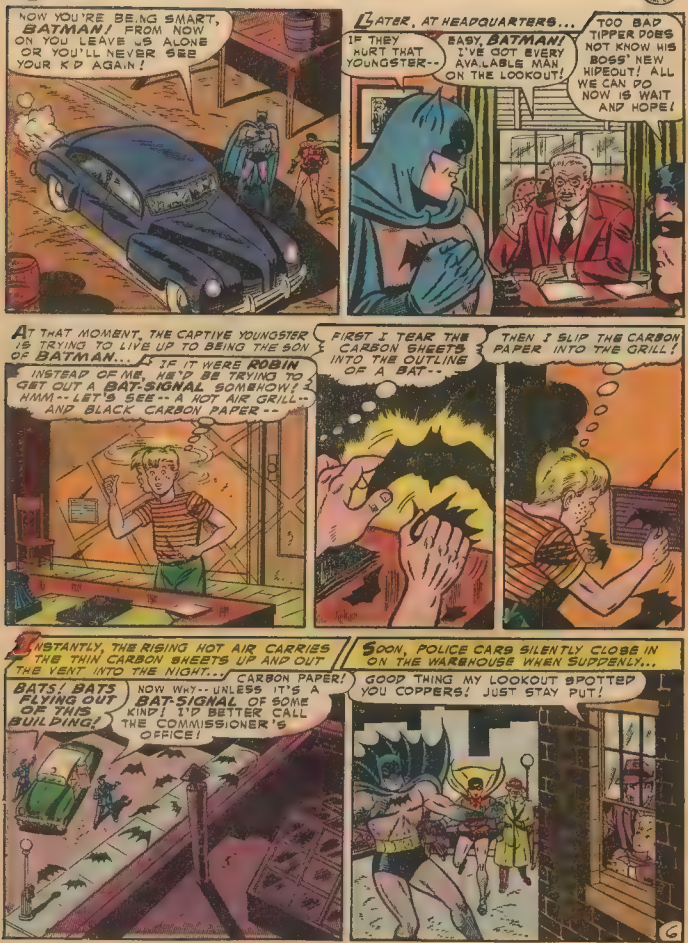
MEANWHILE, IN THE HANGOUT OF A CRIMINAL LEADER...
I DID IT--WITH THIS ROD! I KILLED BATMAN!
WELL, TIPPER--THAT SHOULD MAKE YOU FAMOUS IN OUR CROWD! NOW THAT BATMAN'S NOT AROUND TO BOTHER US, WE CAN START PULLING SOME BIG JOBS AGAIN!

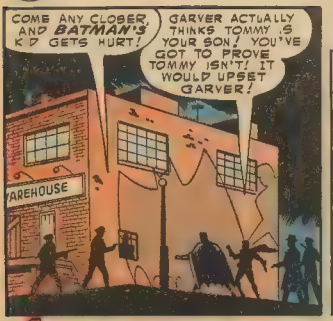

LATER, WHILE YOUNG TOMMY WILSON SLEEPS...
ROBIN CALLING BATMAN!
GOOD THING I PLANNED FOR ROBIN TO GET IN TOUCH WITH ME BY BELT-RADIO! THERE MUST BE A BIG CRIME BEING COMMITTED!

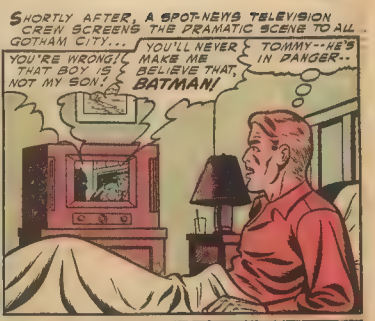

LATER, REUNITED WITH ROBIN, BATMAN LEADS THE WAY TOWARDS A GIRDER...
GOOD THING YOU HAPPENED TO SPOT THAT GANG AT WORK! WE'LL GRAB THEM RIGHT IN THE ACT!
3

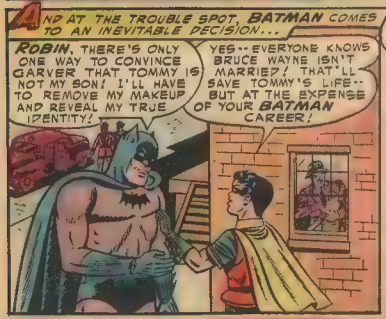

NICE TRICK--USING THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY'S DERRICK TO SWING YOU INTO THE JEWELER'S WINDOW IN THE NEXT BUILDING!
ROBIN AND BATMAN!
IT CAN'T BE--I KILLED YOU! YOU'RE A GHOST! KEEP AWAY FROM ME!
RELAX, LITTLE MAN--YOU'RE NOT GOING TO DIE--NOW! WE'LL LET A MURDER TRIAL DECIDE THAT FOR YOU!
TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE DIVERSION, THE OTHERS ESCAPE...
THERE THEY GO. WELL, WE'VE GOT WILSON'S KILLER ANYWAY TO TURN OVER TO COMMISSIONER GORDON! LET'S GO!
BUT THERE...
GUESS WHAT? WILSON'S RALLIED! HE'S GOING TO LIVE!
AND AS HE PREPARES TO RETIRE...
THE BAT-SIGNAL! THIS MEANS SOMETHING IMPORTANT! GOOD THING TOMMY'S ASLEEP! HE WON'T KNOW I'M LEAVING!
LATER...
IT'S SWELL FOR TOMMY, BUT IT MEANS WILSON WILL EVENTUALLY REMEMBER YOUR FACE! HE KNOWS YOUR SECRET IDENTITY! WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?
I DON'T KNOW, ROBIN--I JUST DON'T KNOW! MEANWHILE, I'M GOING "HOME" TO TOMMY. SEE YOU TOMORROW.

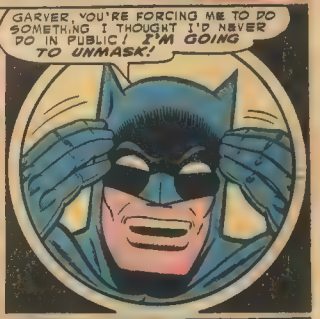

BUT FOR ONCE BATMAN IS MISTAKEN--TOMMY IS VERY MUCH AWAKE!
I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS! NOW'S MY CHANCE TO FOLLOW DAD! I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO SEE HIM IN ACTION!
LATER...
WHAT'S UP, ROBIN?
TIPPER TALKED! HE SAID HIS BOSS MIGHT CRACK THAT VINEGAR COMPANY'S SAFE! GORDON WANTS US TO WEST GATE!
CARRY YOUR BAG, MISTER?
IT LOOKS A LITTLE HEAVY FOR YOU!
BATMAN AND ROBIN ARE UNAWARE OF A HIDDEN ROOTER WHOSE EXCITED EYES WATCH THEIR DAZZLING ACTION...
WOW! GOLLY! GEE!
AND THE ROOTER IS UNAWARE THAT HE, TOO, IS WATCHED BY A NEARING VEHICLE'S DRIVER..
ATTABOY, DAD! SOCK HIM AGAIN, DAD!
"DAD"?!? THAT MUST BE BATMAN'S KID!
LITTLE BOYS SHOULD BE SEEN BUT NOT HEARD!
MMMFF!
BATMAN! I'VE GOT YOUR KID! LET MY GUYS ALONE--!?
TOMMY! BIG JIM GARVER'S GOT HIM!
5

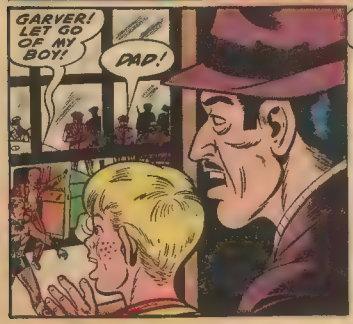

NOW YOU'RE BEING SMART, BATMAN! FROM NOW ON YOU LEAVE US ALONE OR YOU'LL NEVER SEE YOUR KID AGAIN!
LATER, AT HEADQUARTERS...
IF THEY HURT THAT YOUNGSTER--
BOSS, BATMAN! I'VE GOT EVERY AVAILABLE MAN ON THE LOOKOUT!
TOO BAD TIPPER DOES NOT KNOW HIS BOSS' NEW HIDEOUT! ALL WE CAN DO NOW IS WAIT AND HOPE!
AT THAT MOMENT, THE CAPTIVE YOUNGSTER IS TRYING TO LIVE UP TO BEING THE SON OF BATMAN... IF IT WERE ROBIN INSTEAD OF ME, HE'D BE TRYING TO GET OUT A BAT-SIGNAL SOMEHOW! HMM-- LET'S SEE-- A HOT AIR GRILL-- AND BLACK CARBON PAPER--
FIRST I TEAR THE CARBON SHEETS INTO THE OUTLINE OF A BAT--
THEN I SLIP THE CARBON PAPER INTO THE GRILL!
INSTANTLY, THE RISING HOT AIR CARRIES THE THIN CARBON SHEETS UP AND OUT THE VENT INTO THE NIGHT...
BATS! BATS FLYING OUT OF THIS BUILDING!
CARBON PAPER! NOW WHY-- UNLESS IT'S A BAT-SIGNAL OF SOME KIND! I'D BETTER CALL THE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE!
SOON, POLICE CARS SILENTLY CLOSE IN ON THE WAREHOUSE WHEN SUDDENLY...
GOOD THING MY LOOKOUT SPOTTED YOU COPPERS! JUST STAY PUT!
G

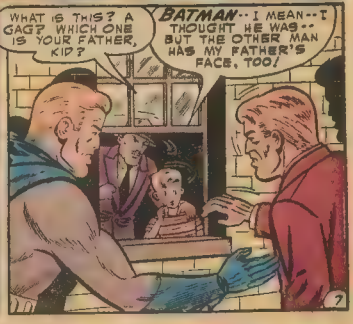

COME ANY CLOSER, AND BATMAN'S KID GETS HURT!
GARVER ACTUALLY THINKS TOMMY IS YOUR SON! YOU'VE GOT TO PROVE TOMMY ISN'T! IT WOULD UPSET GARVER!
AREHOUSE


SHORTLY AFTER, A SPOT-NEWS TELEVISION CREW SCREENS THE DRAMATIC SCENE TO ALL GOTHAM CITY...
YOU'RE WRONG! THAT BOY IS NOT MY SON!
YOU'LL NEVER MAKE ME BELIEVE THAT, BATMAN!
TOMMY--HE'S IN DANGER--

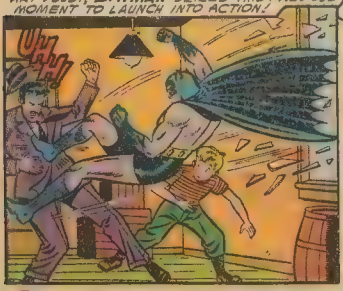

AND AT THE TROUBLE SPOT, BATMAN COMES TO AN INEVITABLE DECISION...
ROBIN, THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO CONVINCE GARVER THAT TOMMY IS NOT MY SON! I'LL HAVE TO REMOVE MY MAKEUP AND REVEAL MY TRUE IDENTITY!
YES--EVERYONE KNOWS BRUCE WAYNE ISN'T MARRIED! THAT'LL SAVE TOMMY'S LIFE--BUT AT THE EXPENSE OF YOUR BATMAN CAREER!

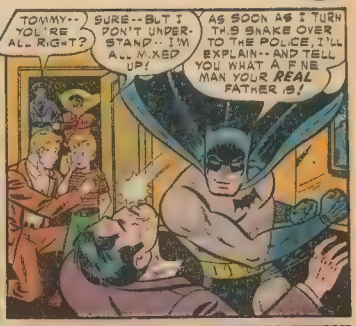

GARVER, YOU'RE FORCING ME TO DO SOMETHING I THOUGHT I'D NEVER DO IN PUBLIC! I'M GOING TO UNMASK!


GARVER! LET GO OF MY BOY!
DAD!


WHAT IS THIS? A GAG? WHICH ONE IS YOUR FATHER, KID?
BATMAN--I MEAN--I THOUGHT HE WAS--BUT THE OTHER MAN HAS MY FATHER'S FACE, TOO!

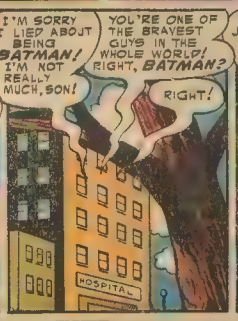
As Garver pauses, stumped by his momentary doubt, **BATMAN** seizes this precious moment to launch into action!

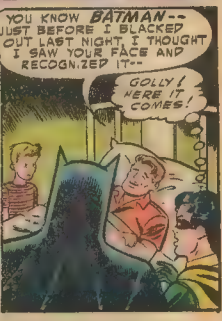


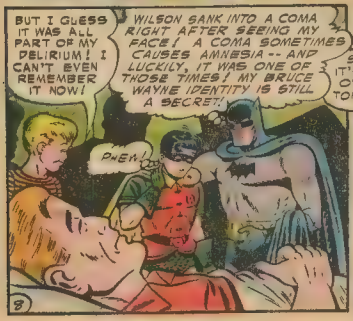

TOMMY--YOU'RE ALL RIGHT?
SURE--BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND--I'M ALL MIXED UP!
AS SOON AS I TURN THIS SNAKE OVER TO THE POLICE, I'LL EXPLAIN--AND TELL YOU WHAT A FINE MAN YOUR REAL FATHER IS!

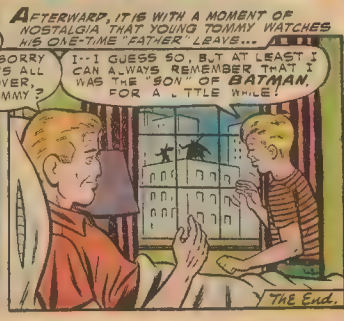
Later, when the weakened man is returned to the hospital, Tommy understandingly accepts the truth...

I'M AN EX-CON, SON--BUT I WAS INNOCENT! DO YOU BELIEVE ME, TOMMY?
GOSH, DAD--'COURSE I BELIEVE YOU! A GUY'S GOTTA BELIEVE IN HIS OWN FATHER!


I'M SORRY I LIED ABOUT BEING BATMAN!
I'M NOT REALLY MUCH, SON!
YOU'RE ONE OF THE BRAVEST GUYS IN THE WHOLE WORLD! RIGHT, BATMAN?
RIGHT!
HOSPITAL




BUT I GUESS IT WAS ALL PART OF MY DELIRIUM! I CAN'T EVEN REMEMBER IT NOW!
WILSON SANK INTO A COMA RIGHT AFTER SEEING MY FACE! A COMA SOMETIMES CAUSES AMNESIA--AND LUCKILY, IT WAS ONE OF THOSE TIMES! MY BRUCE WAYNE IDENTITY IS STILL A SECRET!
PHEW!


AFTERWARD, IT IS WITH A MOMENT OF NOSTALGIA THAT YOUNG TOMMY WATCHES HIS ONE-TIME "FATHER" LEAVE...
SORRY IT'S ALL OVER, TOMMY?
I--I GUESS SO, BUT AT LEAST I CAN ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT I WAS THE "SON" OF BATMAN, FOR A LITTLE WHILE!
THE END.

YIPPEE! RIDE IT COWBOY!

THE Schwinn CORVETTE

BRAND NEW "SUPER-SPEED" DESIGN

Just take a ride on this *newest bike* in the big Schwinn line and you'll see why the Corvette gives you more fun . . . more zip . . . more thrills!

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New "Super-Speed" Design—3 speed gears and Schwinn's new faster rolling 1.75 Tornado tire make the Corvette the speediest, most up-to-date Balloon-Tired Bike on the road. Ride it today!

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Here is your perfect — realistic — electric baseball game. Your electric switches set the stage for amazing baseball action and big league FUN. Brilliant electric lights gleam from their plastic domes, putting life and excitement into every thrilling play.

Choose one of the 9 pitching switches — plug in for just the right ball to baffle the batter. Your batter sets his directional switch for the field he'll bat to. You station your fielders for each batter. Your batter judges the tricks of every pitcher, matching swings accordingly. Switches are on—here's the pitch light—the crack of the bat. You see the distance the ball traveled—the type of play—whether the ball was caught or pegged to the proper base. You know exactly the movement and action of every play.

A NEW PLUG-IN 110 VOLT MODEL

You can name every player — make up your own All Star Team — or name players after the men on your favorite Big League team. Play a game — give every player the actual characteristics of his every day playing.

Your matching skill and wits when you set your playing switches. Electric impulses sent into the electric mechanism are sorted out and the play recorded in colored lights.

You plan and coach every play yourself. You can make nearly every play in the book come to life. Each close play requiring a decision is quickly settled by the Electric Umpire. The game operates from floor plug or light socket. Plug it in and play if you have ordinary house current. Order today.

HERE IS WHAT YOU GET

- 4 Electric Directional Lights
- 3 Electric Interchanging Distance Lights
- 2 Electric Umpire Lights
- 2 Electric Umpire Light
- 1 Electric Pitcher Light
- 1 Electric Strike Light
- 1 Electric Ball Light
- 9 Electric Pitching Switches
- 4 Electric Directional Switches
- 1 Electric Fielder Fly Ball Switch
- 4 Electric Umpire Switches
- 1 Electric Wait Switch
- 1 Special Electric 110 volt Transformer, enclosed Six feet of Electric cord
- 11 Multicolored plastic Domes
- Peg scoring for Strikes, Balls and Outs
- 9 Individual Red Players.
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GUARANTEED 5 Days Trial

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- ☐ Full payment enclosed ☐ $1.00 C.O.D. Deposit
- ☐ Electric Baseball - Transformer operated $10.00
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Street _____

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Big 4-Bat TABLE TENNIS SET

Official size set with 4 Bats, 2 Balls, net, posts and rules of play. All you need for the game of Doubles or Singles.

"JET SWISHER"
A Ready-to-Fly Jet Airplane

Nothing to build. Just attach wings, light fuse and away it goes. Flies 500 ft. high. Comes complete with engine and jet fuel

FULL SIZE UKULELE

plus Arthur Godfrey's famous "push button" player. Both given with complete instruction and song booklet.

OVER 70 GREAT PRIZES TO CHOOSE FROM

Those shown here plus Walkie Talkie, Walking Doll, Two-Gun Holster Set, Pocket Watch, Simplex Typewriter, Football, Dresser Set, Daisy Training Rifle, Pearls, Knapsack, Roller Skates, Moccasin Kit, Pup Tent, Rhinestone Necklace, Sports Kit, Electric Jeep, Phonograph Records, Jr. Guitar, Printing Press, Shoulder Strap Bag, Boomerangs, Bird Clock, Umbrella, Camp "Cookit" Kit, Electric Games, many more.

Send Coupon for Free Prize Book

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For Boys and Girls

A guaranteed watch. Handsome Chromium case, unbreakable crystal, genuine leather strap. This attractive wrist watch is given without cost.

COMPLETE WOODBURNING SET

Woodburning Set contains 3 metal tips, 8 wood plaques, metallic foil, paints, brush. Guaranteed, with complete instructions.

I'M "UNCLE" HARRY

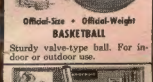
I Will Send You PRIZES Like These

WITHOUT ONE CENT OF COST

I have been helping boys and girls get prizes and earn money for 36 years. Shown here are just a few of the wonderful Prizes you can get without a cent of cost for selling my famous Christmas Packs. Any of these prizes or your choice of over 50 others shown in my Free Prize Book are given for selling just one order of 24 Christmas Packs at 25c a pack. Many boys and girls sell the Packs in one day and get their prizes at once.

Official-Size • Official-Weight BASKETBALL

Sturdy valve-type ball. For indoor or outdoor use.



Complete MICROSCOPE OUTFIT

A precision-built Microscope Outfit. Has 60 power optical lens, slide glass and specimens. Don't miss this great outfit.

AIR CHAMP RADIO KIT

A genuine crystal radio. Build it. Use it. Listen to your favorite radio program.

RANGER AXE 'n' KNIFE KIT

An all-purpose Axe 'n' Knife Kit in double leather belt sheath. Axe and knife made of tough carbon steel. Great kit for outdoors.

CHEMCRAFT CHEMISTRY SET

Amaze your friends with "Chemical Magic." You can perform eye-opening feats of chemical magic with this exciting new Chemcraft Chemistry Set. Magic book and instructions included free.

Professional Type Junior Archery Set

A great outfit that contains powerful 54-inch Bow, 4 feathered Arrows, Target face and complete instructions.

Hurry — Be First in Your Neighborhood

It's easy to sell these Christmas Packs to your family, friends and neighbors. Each Pack contains 4 Christmas Cards, 4 Envelopes and 32 Sparkling Christmas Seals—40 pieces for 25c —a big value. They're so gay and bright—they sell on sight. When sold, send me the money and choose your prize from my Free Prize Book. Or, keep $2.00 in cash for each 24 pack order you sell.

Send No Money — I Trust You

Paste coupon on postcard or mail in envelope to AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO., DEPT. 21, LANCASTER, PENNA.

Read What Wiley Johnson (Age 9) Says:

"Boy, when I look at all the prizes I got a sports kit, axe and knife set, cookit set, knapsack, kombo knife, flashlight and frontier rifle, I can hardly believe it. Everybody liked your cards; I sold six orders in less than two weeks."

Here is What Maude Scott Says:

"It is fun and easy to sell your Christmas Packs. Everyone really liked them and they sold fast. I have orders for more. The prizes and the extra money came in handy, too."

ACRO FLASH CAMERA with Film

This swell outfit includes Camera, Flash Gun and free Film Has Graf Lens. Takes pictures black and white or color. Makes beautiful enlargements.

Here it is—THE GOLDEN TRUMPET

Heavy gold-plated, over 13" long. Play bugle calls, marches and songs without lessons. Case and instructions included.

PRETTY TRAVEL CASE

Overnight Case with removable tray. Has mirror, lock and key.

GOLD-PLATED LOCKET SET

Pretty necklace with matching expansion bracelet, both gold plated. Each locket opens and holds two photographs.

MAIL THIS—Send No Money

"Uncle" Harry Bard, AMERICAN SPECIALTY CO.
DEPT. 21, LANCASTER, PENNA.

Please send me your BIG PRIZE BOOK and one order of 24 Christmas Packs. I will resell them at 25c each, send you the money and choose my prize.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____

OCT 14 P.M.

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NEW DAISY RED RYDER CARBINE

Featuring

1. 850-Shot Lever-Action Repeater. 2. Laced-On Leather Boot. 3. Realistic Western Carbine Hammer. 4. Silvery "Engraved" Carbine Band. 5. Bright-Finish Trigger. 6. Bright Finish Decorated Cocking Lever. 7. Carbine-Type Front Sight. 8. Peep-And-Open Rear Sight Adjusts 2 Ways. 9. Carbine-Type Stock, Fore-piece—Both Checkered. 10. Red Ryder's Own Name On Stock In Gold!

See this brand new RED RYDER COWBOY CARBINE at your nearest hardware, sports goods, or department store. Tell Dad you want one *now* or for Christmas!

If Daisy Dealer is out of stock or none near you, send us $6.95 (or $7.35 in Mountain or Pacific Time Zones) and we'll rush your new RED RYDER CARBINE to you postpaid.

LUCKY ARROWHEAD CHARM FREE WITH DAISY'S NEW GUNBOOK!

Big news! Fred Harman—America's only *cowboy* artist who draws the famous newspaper comic strip "RED RYDER AND LITTLE BEAVER"—has personally illustrated this fascinating new GUNBOOK! This authoritative, illustrated history of America's most famous rifles and pistols includes the pioneer, buffalo, cavalry and cowboy arms that helped build and preserve our country! (Dad will enjoy reading it, too.) Special RED RYDER COMIC STRIP Section, trick shooting plus full color CATALOG of newest Daisy Air Rifles! This GUNBOOK (50¢ Value) is ALL YOURS for only "Two Bits." Pardner (that's a 25-cent QUARTER in Western lingo)—AND—we'll send you with GUNBOOK (absolutely FREE) a Lucky Injun Arrowhead Charm with Red's picture on it PLUS *carrying* thong. So rush Coupon, 25¢ in coin NOW!

MAIL COUPON NOW!

TO: RED RYDER!
Care of DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY
Dept. 1694, PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN, U.S.A.

I enclose "Two Bits," Red, for the new RED RYDER GUNBOOK. Send it to me postpaid and include FREE 1 Lucky Injun Arrowhead Charm! (GunBook contains latest Daisy Air Rifle Catalog Section.)

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No. 94
Only
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